

REMARKS

Claims 34-51 remain in this application. Claims 1-33 were previously canceled. Reconsideration of the application is again requested.

Claim 34 is amended above for consistency with the description provided by paragraph 0025 of the specification.

Independent claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), along with various dependent claims, as anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,706,615 to Scadding. Reconsideration is requested.

One object of this invention is to provide a radiator arrangement with air guide ducts for a motor vehicle in which a first air guide duct with a cooling air inlet opening is disposed upstream of a radiator, a second air guide duct with a cooling air outlet opening is disposed downstream of the radiator, and the radiator is accommodated by a carrying frame attached to an adjoining structure. Referring by way of example only to the drawing figures of the present application, to reduce assembly requirements and to simplify fastening, (1) an air guiding element 13 is configured as one piece with a supporting frame 12, (2) the air guiding element 13, together with the back of the radiator 9, forms a downstream second air guiding duct 11, (3) the transversally extending air guiding element 13, formed together with a top part 17 of the supporting frame 12 as a one-piece element, is connected to regions of both exterior side cheeks 20 and a rear edge of an upper cross-member 19 of the top part 17, and (4) a rearwardly bent lower end region 28 of the air guiding element 13 ends adjacent to a cooling air outlet opening 16.

The engine cooling system forming the subject matter of the Scadding patent does not include such an arrangement. The Scadding patent instead shows a cooling system for a motor vehicle in which a first, intake duct 26 having a cooling air inlet opening is disposed upstream of a radiator 18 and a second duct, with two cooling air outlet openings 28 and 30, is disposed downstream of the radiator. The radiator 18 is connected via upright flanges to aligned flanges provided at respective ends of the two ducts. Neither the drawing figure nor the description provided by the Scadding patent, however, suggests the presence of a supporting frame for the radiator 18 as claim 34 particularly requires. An air guiding element constructed in one piece with and connected to exterior side cheeks of such a supporting frame is thus also not present in the Scadding patent disclosure.

The Scadding system includes a rear or second duct having two branches; one of these branches has the outlet opening 28, while the other branch has the outlet opening 30. A first duct section is formed by the back of the radiator 18 and the front of the adjoining fan 20, while a second duct section is formed by the back of the fan 20 and a rear wall section (not indicated) of the second duct. Nothing in the Scadding disclosure suggests either providing a supporting frame for the radiator 18 or attaching such a frame to adjacent structure. There is additionally no suggestion that a transversely extending air guiding element, constructed as one piece with a top part of the carrying frame, is connected both to exterior cheeks or other side regions and a rear edge of an upper top part cross member as claim 34 particularly requires. In the Scadding configuration, duct

26 and openings 28 and 30 are connected directly to flanges of the radiator 18 and not to a supporting frame intended to receive a prefabricated radiator.

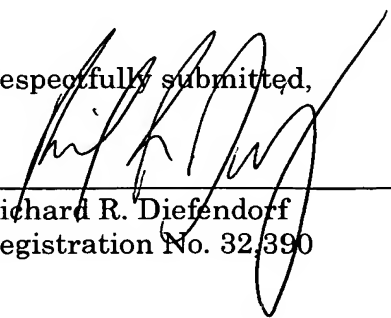
It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 34 set forth in section 2 on pages 2-3 of the Office Action is erroneous for reasons discussed above. Nothing noted by the Examiner, moreover, suggests modifying the Scadding cooling system in such a way that it meets the limitations discussed above, moreover, and it is further submitted that claim 34 is patentable in its present form. The rest of the claims in this application are dependent claims and are considered patentable as well.

This application is now in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #028987.52499US).

September 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



Richard R. Diefendorf
Registration No. 32,390

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
RRD:rd